

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-4 (Canceled).

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A mixed powder for powder metallurgy comprising a raw powder for powder metallurgy and a cured product of ~~said a binder described in claim 1~~ comprising:

an epoxy resin which is liquid at room temperature and a curing agent having at least one functional group selected from the group consisting of amino, mercapto and carboxyl groups.

wherein the content of said cured product of said binder is in the range of 0.01 to 0.5 part by weight based on 100 parts by weight of the raw powder.

Claims 6-7 (Canceled).

Claim 8 (New): The mixed powder for powder metallurgy according to claim 5, wherein the viscosity of said epoxy resin is 15,000 mPa·s or lower at 25°C.

Claim 9 (New): The mixed powder for powder metallurgy according to claim 5, wherein said epoxy resin is a bisphenol A or F type epoxy resin.

Claim 10 (New): The mixed powder for powder metallurgy according to claim 5, wherein said curing agent is an amino group-containing curing agent.

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Claim 11 (New): A method for producing a mixed powder for powder metallurgy, which comprises adding the binder described in claim 5 to a raw powder for powder metallurgy, mixing the two, and allowing the binder to cure.

SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENT

Claim 5 is currently amended.

Claims 1-4 and 6-7 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 8-11 are added.

Support for the amendment to claim 5 can be found in claim 6, as originally filed.

Support for new claim 8 can be found in claim 2, as originally filed.

Support for new claim 9 can be found in claim 3, as originally filed.

Support for new claim 10 can be found in claim 4, as originally filed.

Support for new claim 11 can be found in claims 5-7, as originally filed.

No new matter is believed to be added.

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 5 and 8-11 will be pending in this application.